

The exigencies of authorship at a point within the Arctic regions, in the absence of all books save the common books of general reference and such special books of the north as he has diligently collected in the last few years, may perhaps plead the author's excuse for some of the faults he is quite conscious the book contains; the intervention of a winter-sled journey of three months' duration between the despatch of the first part to the printer and the writing of the second, so that in the writing of the second he has been unable to refresh his memory of the first, may account for some lack of co-ordination, some repetition, which he fears a careful examination will disclose; while the unfortunate circumstance that he is so situated that he cannot read a paged proof of the book without delaying its publication for a whole year, he asks may be remembered should the volume not match the record of its predecessor in being free from printer's errors, and, in particular, should the reader be annoyed, as the author is always annoyed, by finding illustrations not placed against the text they are intended to illustrate. 7

Here, with submission to the reader, is no apology for scamped or hasty work—there can be no apology for offering such to the world; the book has been prepared with all possible care, has been written and rewritten; but there are several particulars in which the author would have been glad to be more precise, or more positively assured, had the means been at his command.

The author has no apology to offer for the freedom with which he has expressed his opinions on many mat-